

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An HVAC assembly including an HVAC case disposed in a passenger compartment of a vehicle for delivering air at a passenger side foot well comprising:

a duct coupled to an opening on the HVAC case and configured to deliver air from the HVAC case to the passenger foot well having a front boundary, a lower boundary and two side boundaries, said duct comprising:

an input coupled to said opening on the HVAC case and accepting air into an upstream portion of the duct having a single passage, said upstream portion of the duct directing air in a ~~generally upward~~ direction away from said lower boundary of the passenger side foot well;

an intermediate portion whereby said single passage divides into a first and second passage; and

a first and second outlet coupled to and downstream of said first and second passage and dispensing air at the passenger side foot well;

wherein said intermediate portion and a webbing flange between said first and second passage are a top cover of a storage compartment in said passenger compartment of the vehicle, said intermediate portion and said webbing flange adapted to inhibit air flow from said storage compartment.

2. (Original) The HVAC assembly of claim 1 wherein said first and second passage include a first and second downstream portion connecting said first and second passage at said intermediate portion to said first and second outlet.

3. (Original) The HVAC assembly of claim 2 wherein said first and second passage extend in a first direction at said intermediate portion and extend at a substantially transverse direction at said first and second downstream portion.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The HVAC assembly of claim ~~[[4]]~~1 wherein said planar portion borders said first and second downstream portion at a substantially perpendicular orientation with respect to said first and second downstream portion.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The HVAC assembly of claim 1 wherein the HVAC case houses a heater core.

8. (Currently Amended) An HVAC assembly for dispensing air onto a delivery area at the passenger side foot well of an automobile comprising:

an HVAC case disposed in a passenger compartment of the automobile and having an opening thereon; and

a duct coupled to said opening and directing the air in a first ~~generally upward~~ direction away from the delivery area and into a downstream portion of the duct, said downstream portion of the duct directing the air in a second ~~generally downward~~ direction toward the delivery area and through an outlet portion at the passenger side foot well; said duct further comprising:

an intermediate portion of the duct directing air in a third direction to said downstream portion; and

a flange portion of said intermediate portion, said flange and said intermediate portion adapted to form a top boundary of said storage compartment to inhibit air flowing out of said storage compartment.

9. (Original) The HVAC assembly of claim 8 wherein said opening in said HVAC case is positioned in said passenger compartment above the delivery area.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The HVAC assembly of claim ~~[[10]]~~ 8 wherein a single passage is coupled to said opening and directs the air in said first direction to said intermediate portion at a location above said opening in said HVAC case.

12-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The HVAC assembly of claim [[7]] 8 wherein said downstream portion of said duct directs the air in said second direction, said second direction being toward a floor of the vehicle and substantially perpendicular to said third direction.

15. (Currently Amended) An HVAC assembly for delivering air at a passenger side foot well of an automobile comprising:

an HVAC case disposed in a passenger compartment of the automobile;

a storage compartment disposed in said passenger compartment; and

a duct coupled to an opening on said HVAC case and configured to deliver air from said HVAC case to the passenger side foot well, said duct comprising:

an input coupled to said opening on said HVAC case;

an intermediate portion of the duct positioned above said storage compartment in said passenger compartment of the vehicle, said intermediate portion of the duct adapted to cover a portion of an upward opening on said storage compartment; and

a downstream portion of the duct for directing the air from said intermediate portion of the duct and into the passenger side foot well.

16. (Original) The HVAC assembly of claim 15 wherein said opening in said HVAC case is positioned in said passenger compartment above the passenger side foot well.

17. (Original) The HVAC assembly of claim 15 wherein a single passage is coupled to said opening and directs the air in said first direction to said intermediate portion at a location above said opening in said HVAC case.

18. (Original) The HVAC assembly of claim 16 wherein said intermediate portion of said duct occupies an area above a storage compartment in said passenger compartment of the vehicle.

19. (Currently Amended) The HVAC assembly of claim 18 wherein said intermediate portion of said duct is adapted as a cover of said storage compartment to inhibit air flowing out of said storage compartment through an upper opening in said storage compartment.

20. (Original) The HVAC assembly of claim 19 wherein said intermediate portion branches said single passage into a distinct first and second passage, said intermediate portion including a flange extending between said first and second passage.